

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 3611  
Applicant : James H. Flater et al.  
Appln. No. : 10/532,899  
Filed : April 27, 2002  
Confirmation No. : 2255  
For : LIGHTWEIGHT FIFTH WHEEL HITCH ASSEMBLY

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of the above-referenced application but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language document.

1. DE4412303 appears to disclose a fifth wheel coupling with an adjustable wear ring.

The listed documents were cited in the European Search Report which issued from a corresponding European Patent Application. A copy of the European Search Report is included herewith. The European Search Report is not a reference, and Applicants do not necessarily subscribe to any of the statements contained therein.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents

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are material or constitute "prior art." Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 16-2463.

Respectfully submitted,

October 24, 2007

/Brian E. Ainsworth/

Brian E. Ainsworth, Registration No. 45 808  
Price, Heneveld, Cooper, DeWitt & Litton, LLP  
695 Kenmoor, S.E.  
Post Office Box 2567  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501  
(616) 949-9610

BEA:kjc